

Drug Policy Advisory Council Meeting
August 14, 2008
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Voting Council Members Present: Chairman Gary Kendell, Jeanette Bucklew, Kevin Frampton, Eric Sage for Paul Stageberg, Kathy Stone, John Garringer, Jane Larkin, Brian Vos, Chris Wilson, Cyndy Erickson, Judge Mahan, Pam Dettmann, Margaret Wright for Mary Nelson, Eric Snyder for Stew Barnes

Non-Voting Members Present: Stephan Arndt, and Larry Doss for Col. Mike Jensen.

Staff: Dale Woolery, Dennis Wiggins, Becky Swift, and Susie Sher.

Guests: Katrina Carter-Larson, DOC; Michelle Cook, CJJP, Syeta Glanton, IGOV;

Welcome and introductions

Chairman Kendell called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Board members and guests introduced themselves.

Minutes of the May 15, 2008, meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted.

Gail Barber, State Court Administrator's Office, provided an overview of the Iowa Children's Justice Project.

Drug Trends and Federal Activity Update

Susie Sher provided an update of drug trends in Iowa.

Gary Kendell provided an update of federal funding. Efforts are ongoing to restore federal funding for the 08 Byrne-JAG grant programs. The Iowa delegation has been supportive of the Byrne-JAG program. The state legislature assisted ODCP through appropriating funding to offset most of the funding cuts for SFY 09. Gary indicated that it is unlikely that State funding will be available for SFY10.

Gary Kendell will be leading a delegation representing all disciplines on DPAC to meet with the Iowa's Congressmen and Senators to inform them of specific needs for federal funding.

SWOT Analysis and Priority Discussion

Becky Swift led the Council through an analysis of its Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (a SWOT Analysis).

Strengths

- Multiple stakeholders/viewpoints
- Public opinion strong for drug control issues (community support)
- Data to guide work
- Years of experience
- Strengthening network
- Connection to policy members

Weaknesses

- Competition for time
- Competition for funding
- Prevention underrepresented
- Varied responsibilities and priorities

- Recovery representation
- Real priorities vs. political priorities
- Access and analysis to data
- Spotty local data

Opportunities

- Development of collaboration across stakeholders
- Access to resources due to collaborations
- Opportunity to make large scale change
- Opportunities to work with veterans
- Ability to work system wide – not just in silos
- Use collective voice to influence policy
- Focus from natural disaster on substance abuse issues
- Promote of evidence based practices to improve results

Threats

- Policy changes that impact participating agencies differently
- Lack of funding – cause agencies to look out for own best interest
- Sustainability of Iowa Youth Survey
- Public indifference – lack of information
- Political atmosphere
- Alcohol perceived as low threat/rite of passage
- Creative, persistent suppliers of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs

Following this, the Council discussed its priorities for 2009. While there were several new issues that were discussed, they chose to continue to focus on Underage Drinking and the Continuum of Care, which were chosen as priorities in 2008 as well. Council members broke into two groups based on their interest to begin discussion of the priority areas. As they worked they were asked to keep the outcome of the SWOT analysis in mind.

Possible New DPAC Priority Issues

- Response to natural disaster-related increases in substance abuse
- Alcohol tax to generate funding to deal with substance abuse issues
- Prescription drug abuse
- Add to continuum of care workgroup

Continuum of Care Workgroup

The group identified several areas of focus and two Action Items:

Focus Areas:

- Evidence-based practice
- Breaking the cycle
- Need to identify the action steps to address gaps in service – funding was discussed
- Internet access to treatment – need to explore and develop distance treatment
- Language and cultural barriers

Action Items:

1. Workforce Development
 - a. Stabilize workforce
 - b. Study/survey prevention and treatment to gather information to share with funders
 - c. Educate policy makers
 - d. Business analysis of costs – turnover, services, etc.
 - e. Explore peer coaching
 - f. Create a short data sheet to compare Iowa to other states

- i. Starting pay, midpoint, top of range, turnover, compare to others (states)
 - ii. If Iowa is lower than others then changes need to be made
 - iii. Get old workforce study from Debbie Synhorst
- 2. Distance Treatment
 - a. Internet/webcam access to treatment
 - b. Explore and develop options
 - c. Identify language and cultural barriers
 - d. Identify funding options
 - e. Invite Mark Vanderlinden to a meeting to discuss the gambling treatment pilot project

Underage Drinking Workgroup

All members of the DPAC Underage Drinking Workgroup will be invited to attend meetings of the Statewide Underage Drinking Task Force.

Workgroup members discussed researching the Michigan law on minor in possession as well as supporting the introduction MIP legislation, producing alcohol outlet density and liquor law violation maps, the value of the Iowa Youth Survey, and the potential for increasing the beer tax to reduce access by youth and provide a revenue stream for prevention, treatment and law enforcement projects.

These issues will be brought to the Statewide Underage Drinking Task Force for further discussion.

Strategy Recommendation

DPAC members were asked to review the 2008 Drug Control Strategy and provide recommendations for the 2009 Strategy.

2009 DPAC Meeting Structure

A brief discussion was held regarding the standing meeting dates and times of the DPAC meetings. It was determined that the second Thursday of February, May, August and November would remain as the meeting dates and that the meetings in February, May and November will be held from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. The yearly planning retreat will be held in August.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held Thursday, November 13 2008, at ODCP, 401 SW 7th Street, Suite N, Des Moines.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Becky Swift